

To: Washburn, Ben[washburn.ben@epa.gov]
From: Quirarte-Ortiz, Cecilia
Sent: Fri 7/25/2014 8:12:52 PM
Subject: RE: OPA Daily Digest 7/25/14

Posted

From: Washburn, Ben
Sent: Friday, July 25, 2014 3:07 PM
Subject: OPA Daily Digest 7/25/14

OPA Daily Digest for 7/25/14

Congressional Inquiries:

Sen. Charles Grassley (Iowa) – Letter – 7/24/14: Abandoned school site contaminated with asbestos in Letts, Iowa. Due: 7/24/14. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

Sen. Claire McCaskill (Mo.); **Sen. Roy Blunt** (Mo.); **Rep. William Lacy Clay** (Mo.); **Rep. Ann Wagner** (Mo.) – Letter – 7/18/14: West Lake Landfill. Due: 8/1/14. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

State Government Inquiries:

Sen. Gary Romine, Sen. Doug Libla, Sen. Gina Walsh, Rep. Paul Wieland, Rep. Paul Fitzwater, Rep. TJ McKenna – Letter – 7/25/14: Express concerns about characterization of many areas of Missouri as “contaminated.” Due: 8/7/14. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

Press Inquiries:

KWMU Public Radio, St. Louis – Veronique LaCapra – 7/25/14: Questions about timing of release of final report on EPA Region 7’s screening of the Bridgeton Municipal Athletic Complex in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris

Whitley, 7394 (closed)

Environmental Stories:

Nebraska Radio Network - EPA meets with critics, seems determined to expand Clean Water Act (AUDIO) - 7/25/14 - The head of the Environmental Protection Agency has met with some of her fiercest critics, but seems unwilling to modify a proposed change to the Clean Water Act. Sen. Mike Johanns joined other Republican senators from the Senate Agriculture Committee in confronting EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy, arguing against expansion of the Clean Water Act which could lead to the regulation of ponds and streams on farms.

<http://nebraskaradionetwork.com/2014/07/25/epa-meets-with-critics-seems-determined-to-expand-clean-water-act-audio/>

Fremont Tribune - Johanns warns of regulatory blizzard - 7/25/14 - Sen. Mike Johanns warned Thursday to expect "a blizzard of regulations" from the Obama administration as it approaches the final two years of President Barack Obama's second term.

http://fremonttribune.com/news/local/johanns-warns-of-regulatory-blizzard/article_9cffb4b5-eed9-5049-866c-047219b8359f.html

Chicago Tribune - Koch brothers' petcoke firm threatens lawsuit over city rules - 7/25/14 - Escalating a fight with Mayor Rahm Emanuel, a company that stores enormous mounds of petroleum coke on Chicago's Southeast Side is threatening to sue unless city officials allow the gritty piles to remain uncovered for another four years.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/ct-koch-brothers-petcoke-delays-20140725,0,7783972.story>

Washington Examiner - EPA charged with destroying emails to aid Obama reelection - 7/25/14 - Conservative talker Mark Levin's legal unit, in a battle with the Environmental Protection Agency over allegations it delayed politically damaging regulatory moves until after President Obama's reelection, has charged that agency big shots are destroying key emails and texts to hide those efforts.

<http://washingtosexaminer.com/epa-charged-with-destroying-emails-to-aid-obama-reelection/article/2551257>

NUVO News Weekly - Ellspermann pushes against EPA energy rule - 7/25/14 - Lt. Gov. Sue Ellspermann has cosponsored a resolution adopted by the National Association of Lieutenant Governors aimed at protecting Indiana's ability to use coal as a major source of power. Officials from Missouri, West Virginia, Alabama, South Dakota and Hawaii have also sponsored the resolution, which calls for federal officials to let states "determine the appropriate mix of energy sources to meet its electricity needs."

<http://www.nuvo.net/indianapolis/ellspermann-pushes-against-epa-energy-rule/Content?oid=2881753#.U9J9Vv13L4Y>

KHAS-TV Ch. 5 - Johanns Fights EPA Proposal - 7/25/14 - US Senator Mike Johanns is taking a stand against a recently proposed EPA resolution that would increase electricity prices. On Wednesday, Senator Johanns co-sponsored a resolution expressing disapproval for the regulation. The proposal would require existing coal-fire power plants to reduce greenhouse gases 30 percent nationwide by 2030.

<http://www.khastv.com/story/johanns-fights-epa-proposal-20140724>

NASDAQ - Landfill Garbage Said To Encroach On Radioactive Waste - 7/25/14 - Pressure is mounting to deal with the legacy of radioactive contamination and possible damage to human health caused by work done in this region for the U.S. nuclear-weapons program. A state environmental consultant recently warned that a "subsurface smoldering event", caused by garbage heating up underground, might be heading toward a section of the West Lake landfill, where thousands of tons of radioactive garbage is buried.

<http://www.nasdaq.com/article/landfill-garbage-said-to-encroach-on-radioactive-waste-20140724-01185>

Washington Free Beacon - Mark Levin Sues EPA for Destroying Emails on Regulation Delays - 7/25/14 - Conservative talk radio host Mark Levin's legal foundation is asking a federal judge to sanction the Environmental Protection Agency for destroying public records. The Landmark Legal Foundation asked federal District Judge Royce Lamberth to sanction the EPA for the destruction of emails and text messages concerning the delay of large new environmental regulations until after the 2012 election.

<http://freebeacon.com/issues/mark-levin-sues-epa-for-destroying-emails-on-regulation-delays/>

ThingProgress - Governors Who Hate EPA's Carbon Regs: Your States May Benefit The Most - 7/25/14 - The governors of coal-dependent states like Texas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma have been among the most outspoken in their objections to the Environmental Protection Agency's proposed carbon rules for existing power plants. Numerous polls have shown that these governors are seriously out of step with how their constituents feel, but new research now shows that they may also be out of touch with what's best for the economy of their states.

<http://thinkprogress.org/climate/2014/07/25/3464015/states-may-benefit-most-epas-carbon-regs/>

Iowa Farmer Today - EPA seeking comments on proposed grain-elevator regulation amendments - 7/25/14 - The EPA is asking the public to help improve proposed amendments to the New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) for grain elevators. These proposed amendments are based on EPA's eight-year review as required by the Clean Air Act. They aim to respond to issues raised by the National Grain and Feed Association and others who want to better understand when temporary grain storage will be considered as permanent grain storage, and to resolve other air-emission issues.

<http://www.iowafarmertoday.com/news/opinion/epa-seeking-comments-on-proposed-grain-elevator-regulation->

amendments/article_ac74aa8e-142c-11e4-936a-0019bb2963f4.html

Legal Insurrection - Email destruction an issue not just at IRS, but EPA too - 7/25/14 - The IRS-Lois Lerner email and hard drive destruction has received a lot of attention. Less so another possible scandal at the EPA, regarding the alleged destruction of documents requested by the Landmark Legal Foundation, with which Mark Levin is affiliated.

<http://legalinsurrection.com/2014/07/email-destruction-an-issue-not-just-at-irs-but-epa-too/>

Wall Street Journal - Report Says EPA Fails to Stem Methane Gas Emissions From Pipelines - 7/25/14 - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is failing to control emissions of methane from inadvertent leaks from natural-gas pipelines, the agency's inspector general said in a report on Friday.

<http://online.wsj.com/articles/report-says-epa-fails-to-control-methane-emissions-from-pipelines-1406305040>

Huffington Post - Big Polluters Cry Wolf Over EPA Plan to Protect Health and Fight Climate Change - 7/25/14 - Next week the Environmental Protection Agency will host four public hearings on its plan to reduce climate change pollution from power plants. The speakers list is already filling up.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/frances-beinecke/big-polluters-cry-wolf-ov_b_5620690.html

Bloomberg - Meeting of Western States Lays Regional Carbon Groundwork - 7/25/14 - op air regulators from 13 states across the western U.S. met in private last week to talk about how they could work together on carbon-emissions cuts proposed by the Obama administration.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-07-25/u-s-west-states-met-to-discuss-epa-emission-proposals.html>

Bloomberg BNA - EPA: Most Waste Sites Used for Renewable Energy Subject to State Laws, Not CERCLA - 7/25/14 - The "vast majority" of contaminated sites requiring cleanup are likely to be addressed by state cleanup programs and won't involve federal cleanup or enforcement laws, the Environmental Protection Agency said in a reference guide addressing liability for renewable energy projects at contaminated sites.

<http://www.bna.com/epa-waste-sites-n17179892888/>

KEYC-TV Ch. 12 (Mankato, Minn.) - Franken: EPA May Scale Back Projected Cuts to Biofuel Production - 7/25/14 - An Environmental Protection Agency proposal for renewable fuel standards would reduce by almost 3 billion gallons the amounts of ethanol and other biofuels blended into gasoline in 2014 than the law requires.

<http://www.keyc.com/story/26112948/franken-epa-may-scale-back-projected-cuts-to-biofuel-production>

Roanoke Times - Speakers rally for and against new EPA energy regulations - 7/25/14 - Speakers at a session this week on how Virginia should implement new federal regulations on power plants focused on the environmental and social costs of coal, the possible loss of coal industry jobs and on alternative energy.

http://www.roanoke.com/news/virginia/speakers-rally-for-and-against-new-epa-energy-regulations/article_86edca3e-999f-57e2-b826-433ef1e802c1.html

Digital Journal - Experts Weigh the Pros and Cons of a \$1.7 Billion EPA Cleanup Plan for the Passaic River at an NJIT Forum - 7/25/14 - Environmental cleanup experts gathered at NJIT this week for an all-day public forum on a \$1.7 billion proposal by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to dredge toxic sediment from an eight-mile stretch of the lower Passaic River.

<http://www.digitaljournal.com/pr/2078345#ixzz38VmvbBWl>

Press Releases:

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

None

Fact Sheets:

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

None

Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:

* New additions noted with an asterisk

7/28/14 – Tribal Visit, Kickapoo Tribe, Horton, Kan. Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

7/29/14 – Tribal Visit, Winnebago Tribe, Winnebago, Neb., Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

7/29-30/14 – Regional Tribal Operations Committee Meeting, Niobrara, Neb. Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

*7/29/14 - Tribal Visit, Omaha Tribe, Macy, Neb. Contact: Lynn Slugantz, 7883

7/31/14 – Missouri Environmental & Energy Conference at the Lake, Osage Beach, Mo. Contact: David Cozad, 7587

8/6/14 - St. Louis Regional Chamber of Commerce Meeting, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: David Bryan, 7433

8/11/14 – Clean Power Plan Forum with Utility Executives, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Mary Peterson, 7882

8/13/14 – Iowa Association of Business & Industry, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Dave Bryan, 7433

*8/14/14 - Agricultural Outreach, Sedalia, Mo. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

*9/3/14 - Nancy Stoner and Mike Shapiro Visit R7, Regional Office. Contact: Karen Flournoy, 7782

*9/10/14 - Kansas City Steel Redevelopment/Walmart Grand Opening, Kansas City, Kan. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

*9/10/14 - HHS Senior Leadership Meeting, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

DRA:

8/20/14 – Tribal Consultation Training, Regional Office. Contact: Heather Hamilton, 7039

RA/Immediate Office

None

Other Events

AWMD

None

CNSL

None

ECO/EJ

None

ENSV

None

PLMG

None

RA/OPA

9/29-30/14 - Healthy Schools Outreach, Missouri School Plant Managers' Association Conference, Four Seasons, Lake of the Ozarks, Mo. Contact: Kathleen Fenton, 7874 and Harry Diesel, 7382

SUPR

None

WWPD

8/18-21/14 – Purdue Pesticide Program Certification and Training Workshop, Indianapolis, Ind. Contact: Douglas Jones, 7592